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Farm · Home · School



REX WOODS

THE MACDONALD LASSIE
BY REX WOODS



Finding the Key to Better Farming

For several years we've been harping on the gulf between agricultural knowledge and farm practice. At times we've rather feared that, important though the subject is, our readers might be rather tired of it. However, comment across Canada has shown that our fears were ill grounded—that, in fact, people would like to learn more about the problem and possible solutions to it.

This has been made evident by the reaction of farm forum groups, by farmers' letters to the press, by the statements of Federation of Agriculture officials and even by resolutions passed by the Extension Group of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, which represents the people whose job it is to pass on information to farmers.

It has been quite evident that people concerned with agriculture would like to see something done to speed the passage of information from the laboratory to the soil. It is almost as evident that one of the most important barriers to doing anything effective is a lack of information on what is involved in this problem.

Everyone seems to have his own definition of extension, which usually revolves around the particular type of work he happens to be doing. Few appear to have given the matter enough thought to understand that extension involves everything that happens from the time a new idea is uncovered by research or a new machine is invented until the idea or the machine is in general use on our farms.

There is no merit in change unless that change stands a good chance of bringing about improvement. A mere shift in names and even in personnel is not likely to do this, if there has been no real development of ideas. What is first needed is a thorough study of the problem with all its implications, and an examination of possible solutions. It should preferably be a joint process, including farmers as well as extension officials; for there is little use of re-organizing a program, only to find that it is no more acceptable to farmers than was its predecessor.

The person who benefits the most from a really effective extension program is the farmer. From it he can secure sound information and advice on his general farm program, on chronic problems or on troubles that suddenly arise.

For Canada to launch such a program would involve close co-operation between the dominion and all the provinces, so that all could benefit from the information, facilities and personnel of each, and so confusion would no longer be caused by "experts" from several sources giving different information to the same farmer on matters involving factual information.

But these things are easier to say than to put into practice. First it is necessary to get an agreement on objectives and methods. With our extension responsibilities divided among 10—or 11, with Newfoundland in—departments of agriculture, such agreement is not likely to be quick or easy. And even after a workable agreement has been reached, there would remain the problem of finding suitable staff, equipping them for new jobs through special training, and organizing the services to make them as fool-proof as possible.

The more information both farmers and officials have on possible approaches to this extension problem, the sooner we are likely to set up a satisfactory program to work toward a solution. With that in mind, the Macdonald College Journal is starting to publish a series of articles on how other countries, as well as Canada, are now tackling this problem. The first article appears in this number, and is the first of two telling what is being done in Great Britain. Others on the United States, Canada and other countries will follow, month by month.

We hope that these articles will clarify in readers' minds the functions, objectives, organization and methods of extension or advisory service to farmers. They should form a good basis for study of this whole situation by farm or professional groups; and out of the mass of information we believe our readers will be able to build up a logical pattern for improvement of our extension services—and through them, the improvement of farming in Canada.

Our Cover Picture

From all quarters come reports of fields bare of snow or covered with ice. Our cover picture shows what the front campus at the College looked like one evening last month after a freezing rain had made an icy crust over everything. The photo was taken by Bob Redelmeier from a window in the Men's Residence.

Any article in the *Journal* may be reprinted if the source and the author are credited.

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The Secret of Scabby Island

A mass of storm-battered rock lying three miles off the Maine coast yielded a story that might point the way to extra profits for many Canadian farmers.

THE sea was quite calm, our skipper assured us as we headed out from the Maine coast. But with the horizon almost disappearing behind the crests of the waves, the dry-land sailors were glad it wasn't blowing a gale.

At last we reached the island, three miles out to sea. The waves, dashing against the rocky coast, spattered spray 20 feet in the air; and we had to search diligently before we found a cove where we could land without having our dinghy upset on the rocks.

Leaving our 30 foot fishing smack we took to an eight-foot dinghy. After a hard haul the prow was brought safely against a low rock, and we scrambled not onto dry land, but up seaweed-slippery rocks, studded with deep pools of water left when the tide went out. Up smooth rock faces we climbed; and then, reaching the top, we found a carpet of peat moss under our heels.

This was Scabby Island. And as we looked down at its fringe of sea-smoothed boulders we saw the reason for the name.

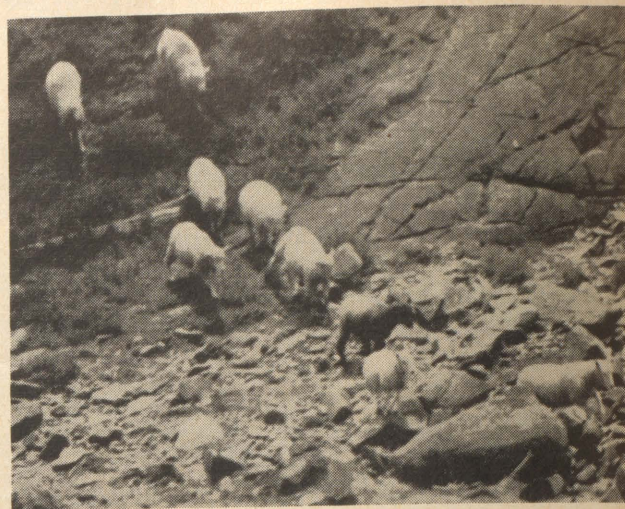
Turning our gaze upward, we scanned the horizon until finally we spotted what we had come to find—a band of sheep regarding us from the top of a round-topped cliff in the middle of the island. After a long stalk over the height and across a low, rock-strewn bar we cornered the animals on a promontory, and out from the band nosed the ram we were seeking.

We got the impression of a substantial, well fleeced body, a masculine, proudly carried head, a strong set of legs—and then the flock was gone. Right past us they galloped, then across the bar, leaping from rock to rock like mountain goats. Finally they scrambled up the cliff and disappeared.

Again we stalked. But never did we get near enough for a good view of the ram—the only Montedale north or north-east of Connecticut. However, we had been able to form some impression of him; a fine type of ram, hardy enough to thrive on the exposed rocks of Scabby Island, and after a few months of this life, to keep up to a band of native sheep leaping from rock to rock.

More important, we saw that the initiative that had introduced this little-known breed to the Maine coast had also shown that sheep could be raised under conditions which most people would consider altogether too difficult.

The man behind this initiative is Elmer J. Pettigrow of Larrabee. Mr. Pettigrow has three islands where he keeps sheep the year around. The biggest of these islands is not much over 10 acres in extent, and a great deal of its surface is rock. The ewes that survive exposure to



Down one slope and up another they raced, with Montie in the lead.

Atlantic gales carry crosses of Suffolk, Cotswold, Lincoln and Hampshire. They're bred to lamb in June, and are shorn the same month.

On one island there's a rough winter shelter — but about all it can do is break the force of the gales that sweep across the Atlantic. The pasture consists largely of peat moss and seaweed, but in the winter the sheep are also given some hay and dried herring bones. Their only source of fresh water is rain and thawed snow captured in depressions in the rocks.

Nor do Mr. Pettigrow's market lambs get any softer treatment. The June lambs are marketed in October—so there's no extra feeding for them. They're taken right off their island pasture and transported to the mainland in a small boat, for slaughter at 4½ months of age.

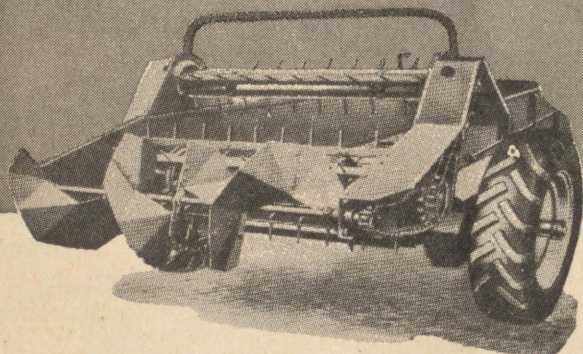
Hard as the life on these islands may seem, it has its advantages. There's very little snow, and it melts almost as it falls, enabling sheep to graze all year. Then there is freedom from dogs, wolves, bears and other predators—including humans. Nor is there any need for fencing—the waves that pound the foot of the cliffs are ample guarantee against straying.

These, with the added attraction of marketing lambs right off cheap pasture, make the islands a very satisfactory spot for sheep, and Mr. Pettigrow no longer keeps any on the mainland. Occasionally he rows over to the islands to check his lamb crop and round the flock up in a small corral for shearing, worming, docking and castration. In the fall he brings the lambs over to the mainland for slaughter, and takes back hay and dried herring bones as winter treats for the ewes. But he may not see his flock for months on end.

This may not seem like good general practice. But when it can show a man a good profit from his money and his work, and at the same time make use of apparently worthless land, it must have a lot in its favour.

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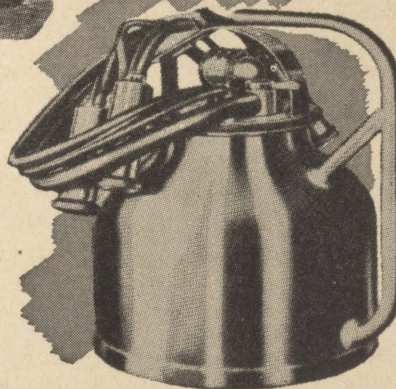
FARM PROFIT BUILDERS



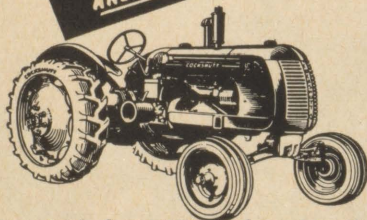
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Britain Bridges the Gap—I

To convert agricultural knowledge into farm practice is the goal of Great Britain's new National Agricultural Advisory Service. This is the first of two articles on the concept, organization and operation of an effective extension program in Britain. They are drawn from an article written by the director of the NAAS, which appeared in the British Agricultural Bulletin.

by J. A. Scott Watson

ALL the world is aware of the present grave shortage of food. Moreover there is a growing realization that the problem is not merely a short-term one; populations are increasing, reserves of virgin land are shrinking and large areas of the world's soil are being exhausted and eroded. There is no easy way to achieve the world of plenty. What we must aim at is a steady, progressive improvement in the world's farming that will raise the output of food to the needed level while conserving, for future generations, the goodness of the soil.

The chief means to these ends must be three. First we must seek new knowledge. Research in soil chemistry, plant physiology, animal pathology and a dozen other sciences is the foundation of farming progress. Secondly we must so educate our future farmers and workers as to create in them a belief in the possibility of progress, and a willingness to apply new knowledge in their fields and their cowsheds. Thirdly we must somehow bridge the gap between the laboratory and the farm. We must see to it that the possible applications of science are brought to the notice of food producers, and that the problems and difficulties of the farmer are brought to the notice of the scientist.

This last is the double task of the Extension or Advisory Services which already exist in many countries, and which should be provided elsewhere.

The National Advisory Service of England and Wales was set up in 1946 with the object of integrating and expanding the functions that were formerly distributed between County Councils, Universities, Research Institutes, and the Ministry of Agriculture. The new service is a part of the Ministry, and its officers are government servants. Its responsibilities, briefly, are:

1. To disseminate, among food producers, scientific and technical knowledge, including particularly such new knowledge as can usefully be applied in the field.
2. To provide advice to individual farmers on technical matters related to food production, and to instruct workers in new methods and the operation of new machines.
3. To carry out such experiments and investigations as may be required to determine the local applicability of new discoveries and inventions, and to pass on to the Research Institutes problems that seem to call for fundamental investigations.

4. To provide technical guidance to County Agricultural Committees, who act as the agents of the Minister in promoting food production.

5. To operate, on behalf of the Ministry, various particular schemes directed to the improvement of food production, the most important being:

- a. The inspection and licensing of bulls, boars and rams with the object of preventing the use, for breeding, of inferior animals.
- b. The inspection and accreditation of breeding flocks of poultry.
- c. The inspection and certification of growing crops of cereals, potatoes, herbage plants and vegetables from which seed is to be harvested, and of fruit stocks which are to be sold for planting.

The organization of the Service is briefly as follows. First, there is a small headquarters staff in London—five senior technical officers with a few assistants and a similar number of administrative (non-technical) civil servants.

Next, the country as a whole is divided into eight provinces, each equipped with various laboratories and a library. Each will also, in due course, have at least one experimental farm and some will have, in addition, a field station for horticultural experiments and trials.

The staff at the Provincial Centre is composed, apart



Higher returns from British farms such as this one in Sussex are the aim of the National Agricultural Advisory Council.



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from the directorate, of specialist officers. Modern agriculture, like modern medicine, is a subject so vast that it is no longer possible for the general practitioner to be even reasonably competent over the whole field; and in agriculture, as in medicine, he must, in many cases, look for help to the specialist. The various departments are:

1. Science—Soil Science; Animal Nutrition, Entomology; Plant Pathology; Bacteriology.
2. Husbandry—Farm Machines; Crop Production; Grassland; Livestock; Poultry; Milk Production.
3. Horticulture—Fruit; Vegetable Crops; Greenhouse Crops and Flowers.

Each science specialist has a laboratory with a considerable staff. For example the Soil Laboratory carries out weekly hundreds of soil analyses, which provide a basis for advice on the use of fertilizers and lime on particular fields. The Plant Pathologist has to deal with a constant stream of packages containing damaged or diseased wheat, potatoes, sugar beets, clover, fruit-tree twigs and so forth, and has the task of diagnosing the trouble and of advising treatment or preventive measures. The Husbandry and Horticulture Officers act not only as consultants in their respective subjects but also co-ordinate experiments and trials, supervise improvement schemes and keep the general officers advised of any new developments in their respective fields.

County Set-Up

In each county the staff is headed by a County Advisory Officer who is also the chief officer of the County Agricultural Executive Committee. Under him, at County Headquarters, are a number of specialists, varying according to the local type of agriculture but normally including at least one horticulturist, one farm machinery instructor, a poultry adviser and a dairy instructress. Each county is divided into a number of districts, each comprising about a thousand farms, and each with its District Officer and a local committee. The total number of officers (excluding analysts, clerical staff, etc.) is about 1,250, and the ultimate complement about 1,800.

The service is not responsible for progressive or systematic courses of agricultural education, whether in Universities, Colleges, Farm Schools or elsewhere. But there is the closest possible co-operation with the authorities concerned. Thus the Provincial centres of the Advisory Service are placed side by side with the Universities, and help is sought from University staffs in all cases where this is required. In return, members of the Service are encouraged to assist, to a limited extent, in the teaching of University students.

Comparable arrangements exist, in many cases, between County Advisory Officers and the staffs of County Farm Schools. But Advisory Officers, on request, give talks and demonstrations to associations of small-scale producers on such matters as poultry keeping, gardening and fruit growing.

It is fundamental to the success of extension work that the paid adviser should work not only **for** the farmer, but also **with** and **through** the natural leaders of the farming community. The unsuccessful farmer will often accept advice from, or follow the example of his successful neighbour when he would ignore the counsel of the government official. Moreover many agricultural improvements originate, not in the science laboratory or on the experimental farm, but in the minds of progressive and resourceful farmers.

The local adviser, especially if he be new to his district, has much to gain from consultation with the accepted leaders of the community. Every effort has therefore been made to secure the closest possible collaboration between the Service and the industry.

They Get Together

The Ministry in London is advised, on matters of extension policy, by the Agricultural Improvement Council, composed of equal numbers of eminent scientists and farm leaders; the experimental farms, in the provinces, have their advisory committees which include representative farmers; in the counties the service works closely with the County Executive Committees, which include representatives of farmers, farm workers and landowners; and the District Officer, who would otherwise be ploughing a lonely furrow, has his own local committee, and is often accompanied on his rounds by one or two of its members.

It may be objected that this is a very elaborate machine, which must cost a great deal of money. But no simple machine can provide each of 350,000 farmers with competent advice on each and every problem that may arise; and the aim of the Service is nothing less than this. As to cost, the annual expenditure, when development is complete, may reach two million pounds (about \$9,000,000) a year; but this is only one-third of one percent of the annual output of the country's farms.

(Concluded Next Month.)

Want N.S. Forestry Plan

Reforestation came in for its share of attention at the 43rd annual convention of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities at Annapolis Royal.

A brief will be presented to the provincial government calling for a scheme of reforestation of barren and marginal lands throughout the province.

A proposal put before the delegates by T. E. Anthony, municipal clerk of West Hants, deplored the fact that Nova Scotia's forests were "fast disappearing due to fire and close cutting, whereas there are large acreages of barrens that will continue to be non-productive, so long as no scheme for reforestation is in operation."

The convention passed a resolution calling on the government to intensify a scheme of reforestation such as is being carried out so successfully in other provinces.

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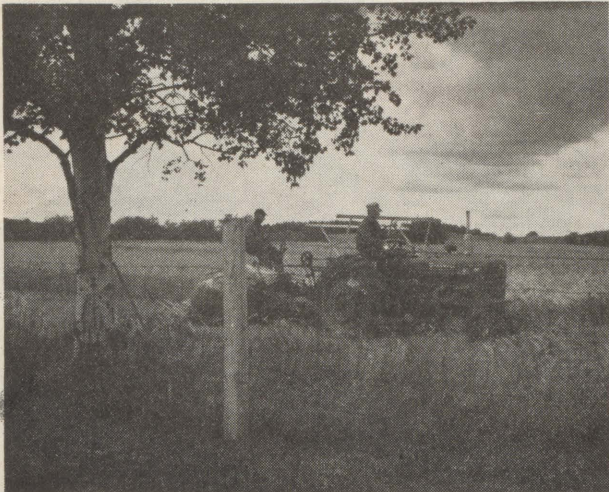
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Seed Disinfectants

The Challenge of Farming

Huge machines being side-tracked by tiny insects; new troubles being created by so-called solutions to old ones; a constant struggle with the manifold forces of nature; that's what the farmer faces. He can't hope for success if he plunges in to battle with one thing at a time; he must plan his campaign as a whole, and co-operate with all his allies.



An unexpected quirk brought many binders back from retirement last fall.

by J. S. Cram

WERE often dazzled by what mechanization has done to farming. In half a century it's moved from very much of a hand process to one of mass production. But the progress hasn't always been smooth, and occasionally it still backslides badly.

One of these backslidings occurred in Southern Alberta last fall. In the great wheatfields the binder had long ago been replaced by huge combines that threshed the grain as they cut it. But last fall the binders were back in many places.

It was no post-war shortage of parts or fuel that forced the combines to lie idle while the binders were brought out and oiled up for service. It was an insignificant-looking little insect, the wheat stem sawfly, that made farmers by-pass the latest in harvesting equipment and go back to stook-threshing.

The catch was simple. To grade well, grain must reach a certain stage of maturity before combining. When a binder is used the crop can sometimes be cut a couple of weeks earlier, and will fill and cure in the stook. That's where the binder had the advantage last fall. Sawflies started to work a couple of weeks before the wheat was ready to combine. And if farmers had waited until it was ripe much of the grain would have been flat on the ground, where it couldn't have been picked up. So they hauled out their binders to cut it before the sawflies could do too much damage.

That doesn't mean that combines won't be used this year, and for the years to come. They have greatly re-

duced the cost of harvesting grain, and their lay-up this year was an exception, and only in a few sawfly-infested areas. But it does show how complications may be thrown into a program of mechanized farming.

Of course, Eastern Canada has never been troubled by sawflies. But it has other pests that forced farmers to adapt their methods to meet special problems. Wet seasons may force us to put hay up as ensilage, which means a different set of equipment; and if we have many of these seasons it may be necessary to adopt this as a standard practice.

Weeds or insects may necessitate changes in crops or cultivation. And weed-killers or insecticides may bring on new troubles, by killing off the more susceptible varieties and giving the tougher ones a chance to thrive, without competition to hold them back. From the southern U.S. comes a report that there is now a strain of flies that is resistant to DDT.

All of these things point out the danger of putting implicit faith in any crop, method or machine. Each may be all right under one set of conditions, but useless or even dangerous under another. We must constantly test and adapt things to fit our needs. And that goes, not only for farmers as a whole, but for each individual farmer. His conditions may be a little different from anyone else's so that he may not be able to borrow ideas and use them, straight with any hope of success.

It all boils down to the necessity of understanding the workings of nature, as well as those of machines. The good farmer keeps on the alert for danger signals and has the necessary knowledge, when they appear, to recognize them and do something about them. Others are simply overtaken by "bad luck," and hope that things will be better in the future. But usually they aren't.

Of course, there are things that can't be foreseen. High winds or sharp frosts are beyond the control of the best farmers—or anyone else. But they can be insured against, to some extent, by choosing crops that are less likely to be injured by them. Early-maturing, strong-strawed varieties will stand up better and are more likely to ripen before the frost; and if they're also high-yielding and disease-resistant the farmer's chances for a good crop are greatly improved.

Nor is it enough to have a good variety. Run-down seed of any variety will fail to produce a good crop. Seed should be tested during the winter. Then, if it doesn't germinate properly, good seed can be ordered in plenty of time for planting.

Another good way of beating the season is to make

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sure that all machines and farm implements are in first class working order. Then it will be possible to take advantage of the first good days in the spring, instead of missing them, and possibly missing a crop altogether, because of having to wait for a repair part.

Some far-sighted farmers make a list of what needs to be done to each machine as soon as they've finished using it for the season. When they've a little time in the winter, they order the necessary parts and fix up the machines with no false motions.

Of course, farming isn't all machines and field crops. Livestock are a very important part of most farms. And cattle of even the best breeds may be poor producers, just like run-down grain. The only sure way to discover what cattle are really doing is to test them under R.O.P. or one of the provincial government schemes.

Nor can the best cow give her full quota of milk unless she's supplied with the proper materials. When some feeds are short the farmer runs into a bit of a problem; but it can usually be solved, even if some of the usual feeds aren't on the market, by making substitutions. And often considerable can be chopped off the feed bill by using more home-grown feeds.

In every line of farming it's the same. The resourceful farmer can make a go of it while his neighbours flounder. Often he's considered just plain lucky; but usually his luck contains quite a lot of planning and study.

He knows, for example, how many cattle his buildings will accommodate, and has a pretty fair idea of how many he can get the labour to handle. From this he can work out the amount of feed needed for the season, the amount of each kind he can probably produce on the farm, and the amount that will need to be bought. This will enable him to put in his orders well in advance, so that he's much more likely to get the stuff he needs. It will also enable him to look over the possibilities for substitution—to see how much less feed he'll need to buy, if he seeds an improved pasture mixture, fertilizes his land, and cuts his hay at an earlier stage.

Most farmers would like to do more planning, but never seem to get the time. Often they're kept busy at last minute rush jobs just because of lack of planning. That's the vicious circle that keeps many of us plugging away. If we can make time to think things out and lay some long-term plans we can usually break this circle and run the farm, instead of having it run us.

A Happy Ending for the Minister's Wife

by Elizabeth Loosley

"What will it be like this time, I wonder?" Mrs. Bennett looked regretfully around at her comfortable kitchen. A minister's wife gets philosophical after she has moved for the sixth time. "At least," thought Mrs. Bennett, "I won't get upset like I was years ago, when there was such a to do in the congregation because I wanted a red rug for the dining room! That was really the worst. And the yellow chair that didn't match anything else, that I had to keep in the living room because the Women's Association picked it out."

"With all these magazine articles about houses and rooms, I'd like just once to do my own choosing!" she sighed. "But anyhow I've moved often enough to know what to expect. And if this new charge turns out to be all that Will hopes, that'll be the most important thing, and not the house!" and she went back to her packing, carefully wrapping the precious china that belonged to her and to no one else!

This story had a happy ending. For there were far-sighted people in the new congregation who realized that the Bennetts would be able to perform their exacting duties to the community much better if they had a home which suited them. The women of the congregation were eager for Mrs. Bennett to arrive, to talk over with her plans for renovating the old parsonage which had served the church, with a great many inconveniences, for a good many years. The men who were handy with tools, were just waiting for the women to make up their minds, to start in building here, tearing down there. They had all talked and thought about the parsonage a lot, ever

since the head of the Ladies' Aid got hold of that booklet "The Home of the Rural Pastor", by Ralph A. Fenton, published especially for country congregations by the Department of the Rural Church, Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, New Jersey. The people who wrote it went first to rural ministers of all denominations and asked each of them what he already had in house and equipment—and what he would like to have. The results of this survey form the basis of the pamphlet.

There are plans for new parsonages and suggestions for rebuilding old ones. Each important room is considered in itself, particularly the minister's study (usually a centre of welfare work and spiritual counselling for the whole district) and the kitchen, which often has to cater for large numbers of people. There are plenty of pictures and diagrams, including plans for landscaping the grounds of the parsonage.

And none of it is "newfangled nonsense". Communities outside the big cities that want good ministers, good doctors, good dentists, good school teachers will have a decided advantage over urban communities with their higher salaries, PROVIDED THEY CAN OFFER ATTRACTIVE HOUSING. This is something for the rural community to think about very carefully!

You can borrow or order the pamphlet (it costs 40¢) from the Information Centre, Adult Education Service, Macdonald College, Que. Good movie follow-ups are "Kitchen Come True" and "Designing Women." "Designing Women" is one of the funniest documentaries ever made, but it gets across the idea of harmony in furnishing a home.



Jerry Voorhis

Voorhis to Attend Co-op Congress

Co-operative educational techniques will be reviewed at the National Congress of the Co-op Union in Winnipeg, March 8-10. A panel discussion will place highlights of the topic before Congress delegates on the afternoon of March 9th. Members of the panel will include Dr. John Friesen, Director of Field Service and

Public Relations, Manitoba Pool Elevators; Mr. Leonard Harman, General Secretary, United Co-operatives of Ontario; Mr. Alex Laidlaw, Assistant Director, Extension Department, St. Francis Xavier University, Mr. Glenn W. Thompson, Educational Director, Midland Co-operative Wholesale, and Mr. C. Maurice Wieting, Director of Information and Education, Farm Bureau Co-operative Assn., Ohio. Jerry Voorhis, Executive Secretary of the Co-operative League of the U.S.A. will act as chairman of the panel, sum up arguments, and comment on suggestions of Congress in the light of his own experience.

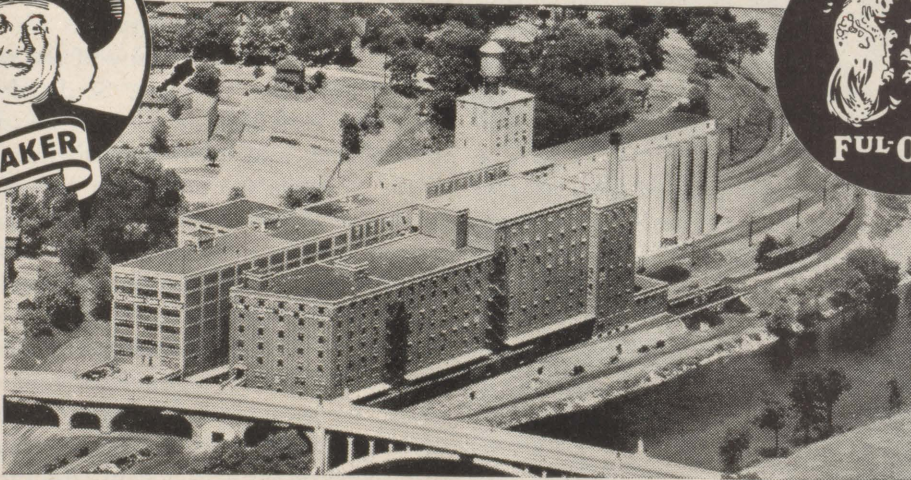
What Farm Forums Are Doing

The provincial president, Gordon Shufelt, East Farnham, Quebec, represented Quebec Farm Forums at the Canadian Federation of Agriculture annual meeting in Saskatoon.

Pontiac, Gatineau and Brome Counties have each received a charter from the Provincial Government for their Co-operative Medical Services.

Sherbrooke County presented the prizes for their Home Beautification Contest. Mr. Gordon Young received first prize.

The Waterville Farm Forum in Compton County spends an hour each meeting learning French conversation. Mr. Mailhot, who was Farm Forum secretary last year, is instructor.



This is the Quaker Mill at Peterborough, Ontario. Another giant is located at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. By converting the farmers' grain into products for the consumer, these mills provide a real service to the Agricultural Industry in Canada and help complete the cycle between our rural and urban population.

THE QUAKER OATS COMPANY OF CANADA LIMITED

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Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Christmas College at Macdonald

THE Christmas short course at Macdonald College differs considerably from the farm forum courses held at outside points. These differences are essential to its success, since it deals with a different set of conditions.

The first difference is that, while each of the other courses serves a local territory, students come to Macdonald from practically right across Quebec. Naturally, their problems differ considerably according to the part of the province they come from, and the type of farming and community life. So the course at Macdonald must be broader and more general, while not neglecting the main interests of any section of students. It must deal with province-wide questions.

Another great difference—and this one is a distinct advantage for the Macdonald course—is that all the students are there for the entire week. At some of the courses the attendance varies greatly, with one group attending morning sessions, another coming in the afternoon and a third at night, but very few taking in the whole business. This makes it difficult to present much continuity of program, and almost impossible for the students to handle much of the organization for themselves.

It also means that they have little social contact, since they come just before a session and leave right after it. But at Macdonald they remain from dawn till dawn, so that they see a great deal of each other, and a student from Bonaventure may get to know one from Pontiac better than he knows his next-door neighbours.

With the students on hand all the time at Macdonald they can organize their own activities and take the responsibility for everything but the content of the talks given by experts. That they are fully capable of making a good job of this has been shown at the two courses so far held at Macdonald.

Then, too, because all the students are there all the time, the instructors can cover a great deal more ground, and the students have a lot more to take home and put to work. Courses can be built like a series of steps, instead of a number of blocks with no connection between them.

Has Big Head Start

Of course, the facilities at Macdonald College give the course there a big head start. There are plenty of rooms for sessions, separate dormitories for the boys and girls, places to read or relax, equipment for handicrafts, and plenty of interesting things to see. There's also a big staff to draw on for experts, without adding travelling expenses to the cost of the course.

Another point is that, since the students see everything that goes on, and since more of the staff can follow the course, there's a much better chance to evaluate it. It's very difficult to tell how good or bad a course of this kind may be by just dropping in on the odd session; and the cumulative effect is just as important as any of



Short course students at Macdonald are shown working at wood lathes, splicing motion picture film and visiting the household science department.

the sessions themselves. So Macdonald gives the only fair chance to evaluate the content, organization, presentation and results of the program.

Even here, of course, many of the results may not be evident for years to come. Seeds of ideas planted at the course may later germinate when favourable conditions appear, and grow to full bloom in distant parts of the province ten or twenty years from now. But if all the action were that long delayed, it would be difficult to justify the course. Fortunately, some results can be seen by the students and staff within a couple of days of the start. Students begin to undertake responsibilities readily, and to discharge them well; and throughout the course they continue to improve. Since this is a course to encourage community programs, this rapid development of good leaders is a very hopeful sign that more results will follow. Another indication that the course is worth more than a good time for those who attend it comes as students begin to enter more readily into discussions—begin to ask the right questions, and keep on asking until they get satisfactory answers. And another really worth-while result is shown when shy youngsters begin to open up and enjoy the proceedings as much as their less retiring comrades.

But perhaps the most important result of all is that these courses have shown that students can quickly detect leadership. Right from the first they elect mem-

bers of their own student body to positions of responsibility. Often the bulk of the students have seen only one or two of the others before they arrive, so they have no prior knowledge of the ability of most of their number. Yet they have made no errors in judgment so far. In fact, they have shown amazing ability at selecting officers who can carry on the program quietly and smoothly, and who can benefit considerably from the experience.

Farm Forum News

Folk Schools and Short Courses

To overcome the ever-present problem of developing local leadership, plans have been made in several provinces for sponsoring short courses and folk schools. In Nova Scotia, Ontario and Manitoba folk schools ranging in length from one to six weeks will be held. In each case the Provincial Forum Office is either sponsoring this activity or co-operating with the sponsors.

In Ontario a 2-week's pilot Folk School was held in November at Cherry Hill Farm under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. John Madsen. The 23 young people who attended came from 12 counties. Most of them represented the Farm Forums or local farm organization of their community, and it was hoped that these young people would later help to organize a Folk School in their own community. Subsequent events have shown that this is actually happening as plans are being made in several communities for a local Folk School this winter.

Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan and British Columbia are using the short course method of leadership training. Participation by the Provincial Farm Forum Secretaries varies as it does with Folk Schools.

Schaefer Painting for National Office

The Henry Marshall Tory Award that went to National Farm Radio Forum in June 1948 for "a distinguished contribution to adult education" has now taken tangible form. An original water-colour painting by Carl Schaefer has been presented and is now hanging in the National Farm Forum Office in Toronto.

The painting is called "The Brunt Barns". The setting is a farm near Hanover, Ontario, in Normanby Township, Grey County. The painting shows a grey weathered barn with a golden harvest field in the foreground and gray cloudy sky in the background.

The artist, Carl Schaefer, is a native of Hanover, Ontario. The Brunt farm used to belong to his grandfather, John Schaefer, who cleared the farm and built the first barn. Carl Schaefer spent many happy days on this farm during his childhood.

Since Grey County leads all the other counties in Ontario or any other province, in the number of Farm Forums, it seems particularly appropriate that the painting chosen for the Tory Award to Farm Forum should be by a Grey County artist, and should depict a Grey County scene.

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PLAN YOUR FUTURE TO-DAY



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
Department of Agriculture*

Our Dairy School Trains Technicians for the Industry

It will probably come as a surprise to some of our readers to learn that organized courses in dairying practice have been given in Quebec for the past sixty-seven years. But it is a fact that as far back as 1881 a course in cheese-making was organized in the cheese factory at St. Denis in Kamouraska County, operated by Messrs. J. C. Chapais and D. Rossignol. A course in butter-making was given at Ste. Marie de Beauce the following year, in charge of Mr. S. M. Barre, who had been sent to Denmark at the expense of the Provincial Government to study Danish techniques of making butter. It is interesting to note that the first centrifugal cream-separator in America was installed in this school in 1882.

Later that same year, in November, 1882, the Quebec Dairy Industry Society was formed, the members of which included manufacturers, inspectors, dealers in dairy products, farmers, agronomes and other individuals interested in the progress of the dairy industry. The Society at once took steps to see that Quebec farmers should have a chance to learn about the most advanced methods of making butter and cheese. Courses and practical demonstrations were organized for various parts of the province, and these travelling schools, the first of their kind, were kept going for ten years, until it was decided to organize a permanent dairy school at St. Hyacinthe where more complete instruction could be offered.

The Quebec Government put up \$2,000 and the Corporation of the Seminary of St. Hyacinthe gave a plot of land and loaned the Society \$5,000 to get started. Construction of the first dairy school in Canada began in 1892 and work went ahead so fast that the first class of students entered in January, 1893. In the first four months of the school's existence, 214 students were enrolled.

But it was not long before it was found that this first school was far too small for the demands that were being made on it, and in 1906 the Provincial Government undertook to build a new and larger one, at the western end of the city of St. Hyacinthe. This is the present Provincial Dairy School, still in its original building, and still carrying on its good work. The classrooms and laboratories have, of course, been improved and modernized several times since then.

The authorities of the school have kept abreast of the times and have designed their courses to meet the demands of the dairy industry for trained technicians in a number of lines. At present, three different courses are offered. For holders of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, a seven-months course is given in chemistry and bacteriology as applied to the dairy industry, with the object of preparing the students for positions as chemists or bacteriologists in control laboratories of large dairies, or similar positions. Included are

courses in economics and in the construction, operation and management of dairy establishments.

An intermediate course, for students with the equivalent of a High School education, is offered for those who hope to get positions as dairy technicians; positions such as manager or accountant of a dairy, fieldman, inspector, grader, commercial salesman, etc. This is a six months course. In both these courses, theoretical instruction is not considered sufficient, and every student must spend at least nine months as an apprentice in some commercial plant. Three months of this time must be spent in a butter factory, three in a cheese factory, and three in a plant making concentrated milk products, or in a pasteurization



plant. This practical work must be taken before the student starts his studies at the school.

Then there are short courses in the testing of dairy products, in butter making, cheese making, the handling of raw milk, ice cream making, and in the manufacture of concentrated milk products and casein. Here again, except in the first course, a period of practical work is insisted upon. Students in the butter and cheese making courses, for instance, must have worked at least two years in a factory, and in the concentrated products course, and the raw milk handlers' course, at least one year is required. Only the fact that there is such a demand for technicians trained in ice cream making prevents a similar apprenticeship being required in that course, although previous experience is desirable.

Every person who receives milk or cream at a plant, who makes tests for butter fat content, or who actually makes butter or cheese, must hold a certificate from the Dairy School. This regulation partly accounts for the fact that since 1892 about 18,000 certificates of one kind or another have been issued to some 12,000 students.

Research

Up until 1946 the school operated its cheese and butter making facilities on a partly commercial scale; bought a certain amount of milk and cream from farmers and sold the products. But this aspect of the school's operations have been done away with and now all the attention is put on teaching and research. All the milk used at the school comes from the Ayrshire herd kept on the school farm.

At the present time research is centered on the methods of manufacture of certain types of cheese which were introduced into Quebec some years ago, and on improvements in bacteriological and chemical processes connected with butter and cheese making.

The school technicians are frequently asked to make analyses of dairy products supplied by commercial dairies, and the laboratories supply the cultures used by cheese makers in the province, a service which is greatly appreciated. The school also prepares the chemical solutions used for analysis by commercial dairies, and the resultant uniformity makes it easier for the inspectors in doing their work of checking on quality.

The school also acts as an employment agency for the dairy industry, and its free placement service is a benefit both to the industry and to the graduates of the school.

The School Farm

The school itself is situated on a 280 acre farm which belongs to the Provincial Government, and both the farm and the school are under the same management. The farm is all cleared, arable land and its dairy herd of 100 head of purebred Ayrshires is one of the best in Quebec, if not in Canada. The presence of this fine herd in the St. Hyacinthe district has meant a great deal to livestock breeding in the area, and its influence will be

extended by the fact that its herd sires are now at the disposal of the Quebec Artificial Breeding Centre.

The farm also raises hogs, keeping seven Yorkshire brood sows, and here again the hog raisers of the district have benefitted. Six Belgian horses are kept for farm work and there is a good assortment of power machinery in operation as well. The farm is operated so as to provide feed for the livestock, but it is likely that more and more emphasis will be placed on operating it as a demonstration farm, where results of plot experiments conducted at the experimental stations can be verified on a larger scale.

The director of the school is Dr. H. L. Berard, B.A., L.S.A. (Laval), Ph.D. (Cornell), who heads a staff of ten regular instructors who are helped by a large number of others who are called in for special lectures. This is a Government school, and students are not required to pay any tuition fees, although they must arrange for their own living expenses while they are in attendance. Study bursaries offered by the Department of Agriculture help to keep each student's expenses to a minimum. Enrollment is not limited to Quebec boys, and this session there are students from as far away as Haiti and France.

British Expert Visits Quebec

In Canada on a speaking tour under the auspices of the United Kingdom Information Office, Professor H. Sanders, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture at Reading University, England, spent two days in Quebec during January. He was the guest of La Corporation des Agronomes and La Société Canadienne Française at a luncheon meeting and spoke on the progress of agriculture in England during the past thirty years, and also described the type of agricultural education available to young men in Britain.



Professor Sanders' tour of Canada is enough to daunt the most active man. He arrived from New York on January 5th, and from then until his departure late in February every available moment of every day is taken up. He is making a very complete visit, speaking in all the large centres across the country and visiting as many experimental farms and agricultural colleges as possible. Just before his trip to Quebec, he was the guest of the Agricultural Institute of Canada branch at Macdonald College.

The National Barley Contest

Alpheria Beaulieu of Ste. Martine is the winner of the National Barley Competition this year. The barley contest is sponsored by the brewing and malting industries of Canada under the administration of the Barley Improvement Institute at Winnipeg. Locally, it is conducted by the provincial and federal departments of agriculture, in collaboration with the agricultural colleges in the five grain-growing provinces of Canada.

The contest was begun three years ago, for the purpose of encouraging a greater interest in the growing of good malting type barley on Canadian farms. Competitors are restricted to the use of two varieties, Montcalm and O.A.C. 21, and in order to qualify in the contest the samples must grade not lower than No. 1 Seed Grade. At least five acres must be planted, and a forty bushel sample is required for judging.

There is an Eastern and a Western section in the competition, but the two sections do not compete against one another. In each section the contest is divided into three distinct phases: a regional contest, a provincial contest where the first three winners of each region compete for the provincial title, and an interprovincial contest where the three winners of the provincial contest fight it out for the grand prize.

Quebec had ten regional competitions in 1948, which covered forty-two counties, all situated west of Three Rivers. There were 295 original contestants, 170 of whom managed to stay in the contest until the final judging in the regional competitions, and thirty of these, the three winners, had their samples judged for the provincial title on January 12th.

The first five winners were Elzear Daoust, Howick, Leopold Beaulieu, Ste. Martine, The Orphelinat Agricole at Les Cedres, Alpheria Beaulieu, Ste. Martine, and Rosario Breault, St. Edmond. It is interesting to note that none of these had ever placed in previous contests.



Elzear Daoust, winner of the first prize in the Provincial championships of the National Barley Contest, receives his award cheque and a framed certificate from H. deM. Molson, president of the Quebec Brewers Association.

The total production of malting barley has not increased to any great extent in Quebec as a result of these contests, but Andre Auger, Chief of the Field Husbandry Division, points out that they have resulted in considerable improvement in the quality of other crops. The extra care involved in obtaining good seed, in cleaning the seed properly and so forth, has been carried on into other grain, so the indirect effects of the barley competition are likely to be far-reaching.

The steady improvement in the quality of the barley submitted to the judges is shown by the following figures. In 1946, of all the samples of grain analyzed, 46.3% were not seed quality and were rejected. In 1947, 24.7% was thrown out, and in 1948, only 11.5% of seed samples did not make the No. 1 grade. In 1948 there were 1,395 acres of barley entered in the competition, and the average yield was 47 bushels to the acre. The average for the whole province was only 30 bushels, so those who took the extra trouble with their crop in order to qualify for the contest harvested an extra 17 bushels to the acre as compared with other barley growers in Quebec.

There are cash prizes for all the winners. Regional winners get \$60, provincial winners \$150, and the Interprovincial winner gets \$500. But the most profitable part of the contest is the sale of the winning seed, which is always in demand by other growers. As an example, last year's champion sold the seed from his five acres for a total of \$30,000.

In commenting on the contest, Mr. Auger paid tribute to the interest taken by the provincial agronomes, whose efforts in interesting the farmers in their districts played a big part in getting so many entrants in the contest. Interest in the contest is growing constantly, and entries for the 1949 contest will likely be still more numerous than in 1948.

Presentation of prizes and certificates to the provincial winners was made in Montreal on January 26th, at a mammoth dinner gathering tendered by the Quebec Brewers Association in the Queen's Hotel. The president of the Association, Mr. H. deM. Molson, presided and introduced the winners.

Poultry Courses Offered

The Quebec Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Youth Training Service, have organized courses in poultry work for the week of March 7th. Instruction will cover all phases of poultry production but special emphasis will be placed on caponizing. Travelling expenses will be paid to and from Victoriaville, and an allowance of \$1.00 per day will be made for board and lodging.

Those giving the courses include Noe Heneault, L. J. Maltais, J. U. Pilon, Dr. J. M. Veilleux, Roger Paiement and Roland Brassard.

Quebec Shorthorn Breeders Note Progress

A review of happenings in the Shorthorn field during the past year, and plans for next year's operations, featured the annual meeting in January of the Quebec club. John P. MacIntosh, president, who was re-elected for 1949, was in the chair and presided over a lively and profitable meeting.

The meeting heard of continuing interest in beef cattle in this province, with demand for bulls and females keen, both locally and from outside. New herds are being established, with dairymen and apple growers showing increasing interest in keeping beef cattle as sidelines. The interest of the younger element is shown in the fact that there are 10 junior beef cattle clubs in existence, 5 in the Eastern Townships, 3 in Pontiac and 2 in the Gatineau area.

Members present all deplored the low prices which were obtained at the breeding stock sale at Sherbrooke last fall, and there was considerable discussion as to how this could be remedied. It was thought that holding the sale in conjunction with the Fat Stock Show and Sale might be having some effect, particularly in view of the ever-increasing size of the latter, and it was decided finally to hold the breeding stock sale next fall at the Norris farm at Hudson Heights.

It was reported that a bulletin on beef cattle raising, printed in both French and English, would soon be published by the Department of Agriculture.

Commenting on the young farmers' clubs, Gaston Marcoux suggested a slight change in the handling of the grant offered to help in buying heifers. Now \$25, he suggested that the initial payment might be \$15, with the remaining \$10 to be paid when it was shown that the heifer is being well cared for. He also thought that a little more care should be given to the programme for the junior events at the Sherbrooke Fair, and suggested that these young breeders would have a much better idea of how proper management affects the final value of a beef animal if they could see how the animals they watched being judged on the hoof looked on the rail in the slaughter house. It was agreed that if all the exhibitors at the Winter Fair could make a trip to the slaughter house and see the carcasses on the rail, it would be well worth while.

Victor Pelchat represented the Department of Agriculture, and pointed out that of all the meat coming into the Montreal market, only 20% comes from beef breeds—and only 5% grades choice or good. Little comment on this seems necessary.

Messrs. Kilgour Wilson and Norval Wilson were elected vice-presidents for 1949, with D. J. MacMillan continuing as secretary. An honorary life membership was voted to Prof. L. H. Hamilton of Macdonald College in recognition of his untiring efforts on behalf of livestock improvement in this province.

A Bargain Year For Registered Seed

Registered seed is seed with a pedigree that traces straight back in an unbroken line to the foundation stock of new strains and new varieties introduced after years of patient effort by professional plant breeders.

Every farmer knows that if he wishes to improve the quality of his cattle or horses, sheep or hogs, poultry or eggs, he must use pedigreed purebred sires. Exactly the same things applies to seed. Registered or pedigreed seed is of the same importance with field crops as is a good sire with livestock. This important point, however, is not as well recognized by farmers as it should be, but the fact is that to produce the highest quality crop, Registered or pedigreed seed must be used in the same way that Registered pedigreed sires must be used for the production of a good herd of animals or flock of birds.

Because of a sudden and unexpected lack of demand from Europe for Registered seeds—owing to their difficulty in obtaining foreign exchange—there is today a considerable surplus of Registered seed of many kinds and varieties in Canada. Seed growers, therefore, have reduced their prices on seed to comparatively low levels, which hardly recompense them for their cost of production. This, then, is a bargain year for Canadian farmers to purchase Registered seed in greater quantities than

usual, and for farmers who have not hitherto followed the practice of using Registered seed to do so this year.

It is not necessary for any farmer to purchase large quantities of Registered seed. A few bushels sown on clean summerfallow or other clean land each and every year is all that is necessary. These few acres allotted to Registered seed should be sown and harvested with care, the seed stored so that it will be free from impurities and from other grains, then carefully seeded again the next year on larger acreages. By doing this a farmer would have in two or three years sufficient high quality true-to-variety seed to sow his whole farm and at a small cost to himself.

Because new strains are being developed almost every year, it pays any farmer to continue with this practice and to purchase a few bushels of improved strains each and every year. By doing this any farmer's crop will be maintained at the very highest standard of quality; indeed over the years the high quality will be gradually improved.

Canadian agricultural products are sold on the basis of quality. This quality with most of our agricultural products not only commands a premium on world markets over the products of our competitors, but in

addition results in our products being given priority by foreign buyers. So the use of a few bushels of Registered seed by each and every farmer each year would not only bring the farmer more money, but because more of the commercial product would be sold, and at higher prices, it means that a greater amount of foreign exchange will flow into Canada, which in turn would be highly beneficial to our whole national economy. All those, therefore, who are interested in the advancement of agriculture and in the progress of Canada should, as well as they are able to do, encourage the use by farmers of more Registered seed.

Increase In Grain Production

Last spring the Department carried out an intensive campaign to increase the production of grains of all sorts on Quebec farms, and now that all the figures are in, it is evident that this campaign was a success. For all grains, the increase in production in 1948 was around 18,000,000 bushels more than in 1947. Figures for the different crops are:

	1948	1947
Oats	38,858,000 bus.	26,359,000 bus.
Barley	3,522,000 bus.	2,895,000 bus.
Rye	228,000 bus.	124,000 bus.
Mixed grain	9,329,000 bus.	5,568,000 bus.
Buckwheat	1,625,000 bus.	1,523,000 bus.

These increases are gratifying, and departmental authorities again urge the importance of growing as much of our grain as possible, so as to reduce to the minimum the amount of feed grain that must be brought in from outside. It is cheaper to grow it than to buy it.

MARKETS COMMENTS

Since August 16th to the end of the year 1948, exports of beef cattle to the United States numbered 241,380. In addition during the same period some 83 million pounds of meat—beef and veal—was exported. During the entire year 105,000 dairy cows were exported South, which was almost exactly twice the number exported during 1947.

The influence on prices has been remarkable. While prices in Canada were higher at the end of 1948 than a year earlier, Chicago prices were lower. Recent com-

parisons bring Canadian prices more nearly in line with U.S. prices for cattle while hog prices are now higher in Canada than in the U.S. after making the necessary allowance for live weight quotations in that country. The live weight price of hogs has been below \$20.00 per cwt. for some grades for several weeks.

Quebec hog gradings for the year 1948 numbered 850,000 which was the highest number ever recorded even exceeding by a considerable margin the gradings of 1944, the highest previous record. 1948 saw Quebec in third place being exceeded in number of gradings only by Ontario and Alberta.

No quotations for oil meal are yet available. Bran has risen in price during the past month, possibly due to decreased flour milling. A slight rise in barley meal and a slight decline in the price of oat chop was also registered during the month.

Trend of Prices

	Jan. 1948	Dec. 1948	Jan. 1949
LIVESTOCK:	\$	\$	\$
Steers, good, per cwt.	15.40	23.00	24.00
Cows, good, per cwt.	11.65	16.90	17.40
Cows, common, per cwt.	8.90	12.60	13.30
Canners, and cutters, per cwt.	6.95	11.05	11.60
Veal, good and choice, per cwt.	21.35	28.60	29.60
Veal, common, per cwt.	18.65	25.05	25.40
Lambs, good, per cwt.		24.00	25.00
Lambs, common, per cwt.	12.25	24.00	22.80
Eacon hogs, B1, dressed, per cwt.	28.40	31.00	32.40
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:			
Butter, per lb.	0.67	0.69	0.68
Cheese, per lb.	0.31	0.33	0.33
Eggs, Grade A large, per doz.	0.44	0.52	0.49
Chickens, live, 5 lbs. plus, per lb.	0.31	0.39	0.40
Chickens, dressed, milk-fed A, per lb.	0.39	0.47	0.50
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:			
Apples, Quebec			
McIntosh, crates	—	3.00	3.00-3.50
B.C. McIntosh, Extra Fancy, per box	3.75	4.00	3.50-4.25
Potatoes, Quebec No. 1, per 75 lb. bag	2.15-2.25	1.10-1.15	1.20-1.25
FEED:			
Bran, per ton	48.00-51.00	56.00-57.00	57.00-58.75
Barley Meal, per ton ..	66.80-68.00	60.25-62.00	60.75-62.60
Oat Chop, per ton	66.00-66.60	61.50-67.00	59.50-64.25
Oil Meal, per ton	75.00	—	—

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Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

While we have not yet attempted the establishment of a basic herd for income tax purposes, the regulations concerning such a procedure sound rather complicated. Even after a basic herd was established under present rulings, it would not accomplish its purpose as we understood it. This was to be the protection of the farmer from an unfair income tax in the event of a dispersal or heavy reduction of his herd in any one year. We have a total of twenty-eight head of pure bred Jerseys yet we could only establish a basic herd of eight. The rest would be too young even though three of them have nearly completed their first lactation and would all have daughters in the herd if one had not been lost by accident. In the event of a dispersal (which we do not contemplate) a large part of the returns would be taxable even though we had a basic herd. Any healthy breeding herd will contain a large percentage of calves yearlings and two-year-olds. In the case of Jerseys most of the two-year-olds will be in lactation. Opportunities for sales vary from year to year as do the number of heifer calves born in any one year. The latter case controls the numbers in any age group in the herd. If opportunity or necessity dictated the sale of all the young stock in a herd the farmer should be protected for tax purposes the same as if he sold the mature animals. The basic herd should be established on a complete herd inventory and set at the total number of animals the individual is accustomed to keep regardless of any variations in numbers in any particular age group. We would like to see farmers ask for such a change in the basic herd regulations.

Farmers and farm groups should also heed Mr. Gardiner's warning in regard to asking for an equalization of freight rates on feed grain for home use with those on export grain. It is an advantage to Canada to have grain used at home if possible so why make it expensive to do so? The Royal

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Commission to investigate our transportation problems should get a strong request for action along these lines.

As we look back over 1948 we see why we have been so busy. We have done a lot of things we have wanted to do for some time. That doesn't mean there are no more such things to do in the future for we can still see enough to last for years to come. But we have done a lot of them. The clean-up job in the pasture where we used the breaker plow was done just in time from two view-points. One was that our purchase of additional land would prevent us from obtaining the land-clearing grant on such work later. To qualify for this a farmer must have less than fifty acres of cultivated land. We were well below the limit this year but shall not be next year. Our land purchase itself was a realization of years of attempt for my father had tried to buy it before me. We had also wanted a good night pasture near the barn for the cows and horses. As our farm laid before, this was impossible to arrange, but we can now do so quite easily. A recent article in the Jersey Breeder indicates that we were on the right track in this desire as it claims that the cattle should have the opportunity to do forty per cent of their grazing at night to make the best use of available pasturage. Ours certainly could not do this before but it might be possible now. For this summer they will not as the field is in poor shape and we already had too much pasture

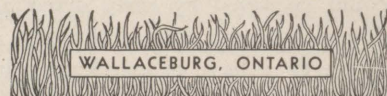
(Continued on Inside Back Cover)

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THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

All-out to Help Conquer Cancer

by Dorothy Ellard

The above headline is the motto for the Canadian Cancer Society, Prov. of Quebec Branch, which is asking for our support and help in fighting the great scourge, cancer. They are aware that the most effective part of their work could be done in the rural areas of our province and yet is the most difficult to deal with. It is because of this particular reason that they ask the co-operation of members of the Quebec Women's Institutes in trying to find the best means of educating members regarding the cancer menace and providing a Social Service to cancer sufferers. There is to be a public appeal in April next, which is to be "Cancer Month". They believe they are getting near to receiving substantial action from our Prov. Government, but this society will still have to secure support by funds from the public and extend its membership widely throughout the province, if we are to put up a real fight against cancer. Following are a few facts everyone should know.

1st. Cancer kills more than 33 Canadians every day; 2nd. Young and old are victims; 3rd. One out of eight persons over 40 dies of cancer; 4th. Over 13,000 Canadians die annually from cancer; 5th. As many as 6,000 lives could be saved by early detection and treatment; 6th. Thousands who would otherwise die are cured regularly where they have proper knowledge and treatment. 7th. More children 5 to 19 years of age die each year from cancer than the deaths from the following combined: scarlet fever, infantile paralysis, typhoid, peritonitis, dysentery and diarrhoea. **Early cancer can be cured. Lives can be saved.**

A few answers to questions often asked about cancer, taken from a pamphlet sent out by Can. Cancer Society. What is Cancer? Cancer is a disorderly growth of cells of the patient own tissues. This growth does not respond to the laws that controls activities of normal cells. It never ceases during the life of the individual and the tissues so formed never function, as does the normal tissue in the same individual. Is Cancer caused by a germ? There is no scientific evidence that cancer is caused by a germ. Is Cancer contagious or infectious? As cancer is not due to a germ it is neither contagious or infectious. There is no record in medical literature of physicians or nurses getting cancer from their patients despite the most intimate contact with them. A person can no more "catch" cancer from another than he can "catch" the colour of his eyes. Is there any disgrace in

having Cancer? No. There is no more disgrace in having cancer than in having a broken arm or leg. Does Cancer occur more frequently among married or unmarried women? No general statement is possible. A single woman is more likely to have cancer of the breast than a married woman who nurses her children. However, cancer of the cervix is found more frequently in married women who have borne children. Do more women than men die from Cancer? No. Are all tumours Cancer? No. Tumours are of two kinds, benign and usually harmless, and malignant or cancer. Is pain an early sign of Cancer? No, except in cancer of bone or nerve tissue. Pain usually is a late symptom and when it occurs the growth is often far advanced. Can Cancer be "drawn out" with a salve or cured by taking medicine? No paste or salve will penetrate the tissues far enough to destroy deep seated cancer cells, there is no medicine known which has a selective action on cancer cells. How may a quack be told from a reputable physician? If a person advertises a cure or guarantees a cure, or demands payment in advance of treatment, he may be classed as a quack. No reputable ethical physician will do any of these things. Is Cancer curable only in early stages? Yes, in the large majority of cases. At times, however, cures have been obtained after the cancer has been present for a long time. The type of cancer always has an important bearing on its curability. Is progress being made in Cancer research? Yes. Cancer Research has accomplished more in the last 30 years than in the preceding three centuries. How may Cancer be controlled? By 1st. a prompt visit to a physician when suspicious signs or symptoms appear. Intelligent alertness of the individual may well save his life. 2nd. By each person having a complete annual physical examination. 3rd. By physicians being aware of the possibility of cancer in abnormal conditions found at the time of periodic examinations. 4th. By co-operation between physician and patient in carrying out diagnostic and treatment procedures. 5th. By widespread knowledge, both lay and professional, of the character of cancer, its cause, methods of spreading, the value of early diagnosis and adequate treatment and means of prevention.

Support of educational organizations as the Cancer Society is essential. For further information write to Canadian Cancer Society, Prov. of Quebec Division, 1499 Bishop St., Montreal 25. Ask for literature to distribute to your W.I. members.

The Month With the W.I.

It is hard to realize, as you read these words, that they were written when Christmas wreaths were still in place and lights still bright on the "Tree". As such is the case you will know how crammed these reports were with the many, **many** deeds of cheer and goodwill done by branches everywhere, not only to the children and needy in their own communities but in hospitals, in Welfare Centres, and across the seas. Programmes were also planned around the Christmas theme, even to demonstrations. (If you want to know how to make a "Popcorn Tree" members of the Howick W.I. can now tell you how).

A new note this year is the help given by the Institutes in the sale of Christmas seals. Large quantities were taken and sold, the proceeds forwarded to the TB League.

Many reports mentioned a two minute's silence observed at their meetings in memory of Mrs. Watt, whose passing has been such a loss to the organization. Many demonstrations have been given again this month; Miss Guild sure gets around.

Argenteuil: Arundel had their mayor, Mr. R. B. Henry, as guest speaker. Frontier gave \$15 to the Children's Memorial and presented a gift to a bride. A seasonable programme was rendered. Jerusalem-Bethany presented 3 charter members with life memberships. Lachute has started a small travelling library between their various groups. This is a very large Institute and for that reason finds it can work more effectively in smaller groups. Mrs. Leggett, county president, reminded members of the W.I. aims and Mrs. Baugh and Mrs. Fletcher, students at the Short Course last year, told of the work done there. Donations of \$10 each to the Grace Dart Home and the Laurentian Sanitarium were also reported. Lakefield members, in response to rollcall, signed their names to a card and sent it to a former member now living in Edmonton. Mille Isles reports a 20 pound parcel sent overseas. At Pioneer 9 members received First Aid Certificates from the St. John's Ambulance Corps. \$5 was voted that organization and \$10 to the Children's Memorial. Upper Lachute and East End gave \$10 to assist the Soup Fund for rural pupils at the Lachute High School. Articles on Publicity were read by the convenor and a 17 pound parcel sent overseas.

Brome: Abercorn discussed the Blue Cross and are planning to enroll several members. Letters of thanks were read from the grateful persons overseas who have been receiving their parcels. Cheer in keeping with the season is also mentioned in their report.

Compton: Cookshire gave a scholarship of \$50 to a graduate of Grade XI going on for further study and a gift of \$25 to the town library. This branch held a reception for the teachers and parents of the school children. Canterbury is taking up leather work at their

short course. \$10 was voted the school kitchen in Scotstown, prizes planned for that school and Bury, and a life membership presented to a charter member. "Citizenship" was the theme of their programme. East Clifton gave a donation to their church and rendered a pleasing programme in keeping with the season. Scotstown entertained the Canterbury branch at their meeting. \$10 was given Save the Children and \$16.65 to the library by the Home Economics committee. South Newport heard a splendid paper on "Education in Compton County" and a related rollcall, "My Favorite Subject in School," gave everyone a part in the programme.

Chat-Huntingdon: Aubrey-Riverfield held a "Social Service Day" when four warm quilts were quilted and donations of toys brought in to be sent Bannantyne School in Verdun. "This was an all-day meeting" the report adds.

An address was given by the county president, Mrs. Lang, and current events in all departments contributed by the convenors. Dundee is planning for a Handicraft exhibit to be held in the spring. The monthly contest on most helpful household hint was won this time by Mrs. W. McGibbon, and the spelling contest winner was Mrs. A. Fraser. A talk by Rev. Mr. Hagar and items furnished by the convenors were other features of the meeting. Franklin Centre had a sale of cookies and sent four parcels overseas. The ever popular quiz was a high light of their programme. Howick, many donations are listed here; \$5 to the Grace Dart Home and TB League, \$10 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund, and help with purchasing a couch for Howick High School. \$74 was realized when the branch catered for the banquet given by the local Chamber of Commerce in honour of the Ness boys. Huntingdon has three addresses overseas and two parcels are sent every month. Miss Edna Grant, National Field Secretary of the W.C.T.U. was a guest and gave a talk on that work. Hemmingford, "Farming" was the subject discussed by this branch. Donations for "Cheer Boxes" were handed in as response to rollcall.



Grandmothers Meeting of Kazabazua W.I. at Mrs. J. Rusenstrum's. "I took the picture" she adds.

Gatineau: Aylmer East members were well pleased with proceeds of the Hunt Club banquet for which they catered. A seasonable programme was arranged. Breckenridge remembered Education Week by having a talk from Mrs. Fred Lusk, a charter member, on her first day at teaching school. This was 50 years ago and her pupils ranged from 6 to 20 years of age. A gift was given a bride and a play netted \$10 for the treasury. Eardley enrolled 14 members and their families in the Blue Cross. Of the two parcels sent overseas, one went to their adopted child in Austria. Kazabazua had a tea and card party to aid general funds. A picture of their Grandmother's meeting was obtained and appears in this issue of the Journal.

Rupert reports a satisfactory sum from a sale of "Mystery Boxes". Wakefield sent 2 large cartons of good used shoes and clothing to Save the Children and is making woollen garments for the Red Cross. Wright expressed sympathy for their County president, Mrs. Ellard, who is "hors de combat" with an injured ankle. This branch (in co-operation with the local church) sponsored a shower of good things for a member just home after long hospitalization and a member donated a quilt for the funds.

Missisquoi: Cowansville is packing a large parcel of good used clothing to send overseas. A concert by local talent was sponsored. Fordyce carried out two successful projects, a food sale and tea which netted \$68 and cook-books made and sold which brought in a profit of \$62. Gifts were presented three members who had done special work on these projects and donations of \$10 and \$5 given to the Children's Memorial and Sweetsburg Hospitals. Stanbridge East gave a total of \$20 to be used in various forms of community work and \$5 to the Leap Year Fund. \$20.54 was realized from a card party and contests proved a popular feature of their meeting. St. Armand sent a special gift parcel to England and voted \$3 for their local school. "The Song of the Lazy Farmer", a particularly timely one, made a "hit" on their programme.

Megantic: Inverness sent \$5 donations to the Children's Memorial and the Salvation Army. Sunshine work had a predominant place on their report with a special parcel sent overseas containing 12 gifts, one for every member of "their" family.

Papineau: Lochaber reports a well-planned meeting in keeping with the season, including a splendid collection of gifts which was sent to the Children's Memorial.

Pontiac: Beech Grove donated \$10 to the Skating Rink Fund. "The Diary of a Bible" was the title of a reading given at their meeting. Bristol Busy Bees bought wood and delivered it to a needy family and also collected food for the same purpose. A canvass was made for the Community Hospital and a quilt was made and sold. Clarendon served a luncheon at a teachers' meeting, realizing



Shipton W.I. Members young and old at the home of Mrs. D. Webb.

\$40 from this venture. Each member made some contribution to the programme, which concluded with a contest "Jumbled Biblical Names". Elmside, a sale of aprons is reported here and an interesting programme featuring a story, "Let's be Ourselves". Wyman had a programme arranged by their president with every member making a contribution. The sum of \$15 was given their Skating Rink Fund.

Rouville: Abbotsford collected jelly and marmalade to be sent the Diet Dispensary in Montreal and an auction of useful articles netted over \$20.

Richmond: Dennison's Mills reports a masquerade dance and a candy sale with a total of \$36.07 raised for the treasury. \$5 was voted for their overseas parcel. Shipton tells of a good time, when a supper was served for members and their families. A miscellaneous sale, including "White Elephants", brought \$13 into the treasury. Spooner Pond, a food sale and card party are features of their report. A novel contest is also mentioned, most articles made from one ball of wool. A coin shower was held for a new baby. Windsor Mills sold an apron for \$1.90 and realized, in addition, \$6.36 from its "patches". Felt work is to be taken up when they have their short course.

Sherbrooke: Ascot held a dance to raise funds and furnished apples for a children's party at their school. Belvidere had an enjoyable evening when the losing attendance team entertained the winners at a supper. Brompton Road discussed routine business and sent two boxes overseas. Cherry River sponsored a sale of handicrafts and food, proceeds were used for treats in the school. At Lennoxville, Mrs. Abercrombie read the reply to a cable sent to Princess Elizabeth by the F.W.I.C. congratulating her on the birth of a son. Milby held two dances and sent a donation to the TB League.

Shefford: Granby Hill, grateful letters received from B.C. and England are mentioned in this report and \$10 sent to the Children's Memorial. South Roxton sent a letter of sympathy to their county vice-president on the loss of a loved one. Their last parcel was ordered through the Aylmer Co. Warden gave generously for treats for the children of the community and much sunshine work is also reported.

Associated Country Women of the World

Mrs. Alfred Watt, M.B.E., M.A.
Former President of A.C.W.W.

(Copy of press release sent to all A.C.W.W. Press Correspondents by Mrs. Chas. Russell, London, England).

"Mrs. Alfred Watt, M.B.E., M.A., died in Montreal on the 29th of November, 1948, at the age of 80. She was Miss Madge Robertson, a Canadian by birth and education and she married Dr. Alfred Tennyson Watt, Health Officer in British Columbia. They had two sons, Mr. Robin and Mr. Sholto Watt.

Mrs. Watt was the Founder of the Women's Institutes in England and Wales and with the late Marchioness of Aberdeen was responsible for the formation of the Associated Country Women of the World.

After her husband's death in 1913, Mrs. Watt came to England. She had an intimate knowledge of the work done by the Women's Institutes in Canada and soon saw the need for a similar organization in the British Isles. The first W.I. was formed in Wales in 1915 in the small village of Llanfairpwll, and soon the movement was spreading rapidly throughout England and Wales and crossed the border into Scotland.

Mrs. Watt then envisaged linking the whole world in an association composed of rural women, and so, first as an off-shoot of the International Council of Women, and then, as an independent organization, the Associated Countrywomen of the World, came into being in 1930.

A memorial service for Mrs. Watt was held at St. Martin-in-the Fields, London, on December 14th, 1948, and was attended by many from both the Women's Institutes and the A.C.W.W. Mrs. Watt received the M. B.E. for her work in organizing the W.I.'s in England

and Wales and was awarded the Medaille d'Agriculture by the French Government.

In the obituary notice of her, which appeared in the "Times" of December 1st, 1948, it said "It is not given to many people to see the result of their labours in such abundant measure as was given to Mrs. Watt." W.I. members in England and Wales alone number over 350,000, and the A.C.W.W. now has a membership of over 5 million."

Members of the Quebec Women's Institutes join with other constituent societies of the A.C.W.W. in mourning the passing of one whom rural women, the world over, have felt to be their friend.

Several years ago Mrs. Watt visited in Sherbrooke and attended several county meetings in the Eastern Townships. She was also able to attend a few provincial conventions of the Q.W.I. held at Macdonald College. Speaking at the last one at which she was present, two years ago, Mrs. Watt stressed the worth of W.I. work, pointing to its steady growth as proof it was filling a real need among country women everywhere. Those who were privileged to hear her at that time were much impressed by her ability and enthusiasm and will not soon forget her stirring address. "Hold your heads high", she admonished her listeners, "you have an organization of which you may well be proud. Help to make others proud of it too." Quebec owes much to her wise leadership, as do other affiliated societies in the 23 countries represented in the international organization.

Flowers were sent by the Q.W.I. and Mrs. A. E. Abercrombie, Lennoxville, 2nd vice-president, represented that society at the funeral services in Montreal.

International Garden of Good Neighbours

(Many of our new members are asking "What is this Peace Garden anyway?" Perhaps some of our older ones are also somewhat vague about this project so the following extracts from an article given by Miss Abbie Pritchard at her own branch meeting may interest others.)

This beautiful garden, 2,200 acres in size, is located on the International line which runs between the province of Manitoba and the State of North Dakota. It is the approximate geographical centre of the North American continent. Unique and lovely in design it is dedicated to everlasting peace between the two countries. At its entrance is a cairn of stones bearing a plaque on which is the inscription; "To God in His Glory we dedicate this garden and pledge ourselves that so long as man shall live we will not take up arms against one another."

In July 14th, 1932, in the presence of more than 50,000 people, the garden was dedicated by Governor Shafer of North Dakota, officiating for the United States, and the Hon. T. G. Murphy, Minister of the Interior, for Canada.

Since it began its support in June, 1933, the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada have donated almost a \$1,000 for the laying out and upkeep of its acre. Provincial units have sent many flowers, shrubs and trees, typical of the section it represents and the Isle of Wight, W.I. Federation, has also given a cash donation to the Institute acre and will be represented there by a flower bed. Each province gives an annual donation of \$12.

Today the W.I. acre is so beautiful that people drive miles to see it. The paths and gravel walks make each portion easily accessible. When complete the acre will have a background of evergreens and will contain many hardy perennials, which will ensure a continuous bloom throughout the season and make it "A thing of beauty and a joy forever."

Scores of other organizations have now indicated their desire to follow the lead of the F.W.I.C. and it seems certain that the entire formal garden area will be created in this way.



THE COLLEGE PAGE

In The New Pathology Lab.

The pictures below show some of the new construction for the Branch Laboratory of the Division of Animal Pathology, Science Service, of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, built for this new development at Macdonald College. A story about the functions of the laboratory appeared in our December issue.

A new laboratory was built by putting a second story on top of a small animal house which jutted out from the rear of the Biology Building, and by enclosing the brick corridor which connected the two. The centre picture shows the new laboratory during building operations, and a view of one part of the new lab. appears at the left, with Dr. Swales and three assistants busily at work. Projects at present underway here include studies to find out just how blackhead of turkeys is transmitted from chickens to turkey poults, experiments to find some cheaper drugs for treating coccidiosis, investigations in collaboration with other departments of the College, and the routine analyses and tests in connection with Bang's Disease, and on requests for help received from veterinarians and livestock owners.

Over 30 different drugs have been tried out as control for blackhead, and although some have shown promise, it is not yet possible to recommend any treatment than can be used on a practical basis. Experimental results have been good, however, and the flock of turkeys which can be seen at the side of the building in the right hand picture are all immune from blackhead as a result of treatment. It seems safe to predict that before long, blackhead of turkeys will be a thing of the past. What

this will mean to turkey raisers can well be imagined.

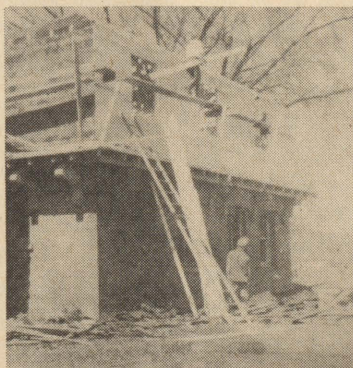
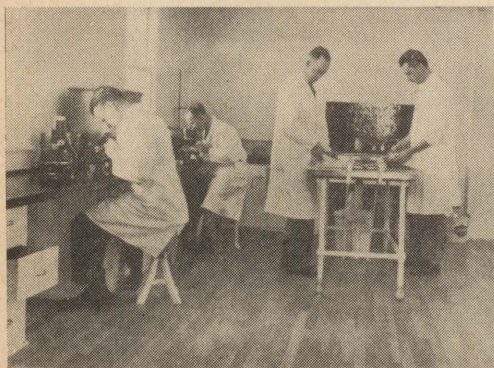
The large building in the right hand picture is a cunningly contrived animal house for cattle, sheep, pigs or poultry used for experimental work. It is divided into pens, the walls of which are all removable so that in a few minutes the partitions can be re-arranged so as to make a lot of small sections, or a few large ones, or combinations of both so that no matter what kind of animals are put into the building, proper pens will be available for them. It is heated by oil, has an oil hot water heating system, and the loft upstairs holds feed and extra equipment. About an acre of land around the building is fenced. The barn at the back is a gas training hut which was built during the war by the C.W.A.C., and is now used as an extra animal house.

The new laboratory, known as the Frank P. Jones Building, will be used exclusively for research, and it is hoped that the research unit in animal physiology will be fully staffed in 1949.

War Memorial Address

The third Macdonald College War Memorial Address will be delivered on March 9th by Dr. L. W. Brockington, K.C., Rector of Queen's University, former Chairman of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and one of Canada's wittiest and most sought-after public speakers.

The first and second addresses were given by the Honourable Vincent Massey and by Viscount Alexander, Governor General of Canada.

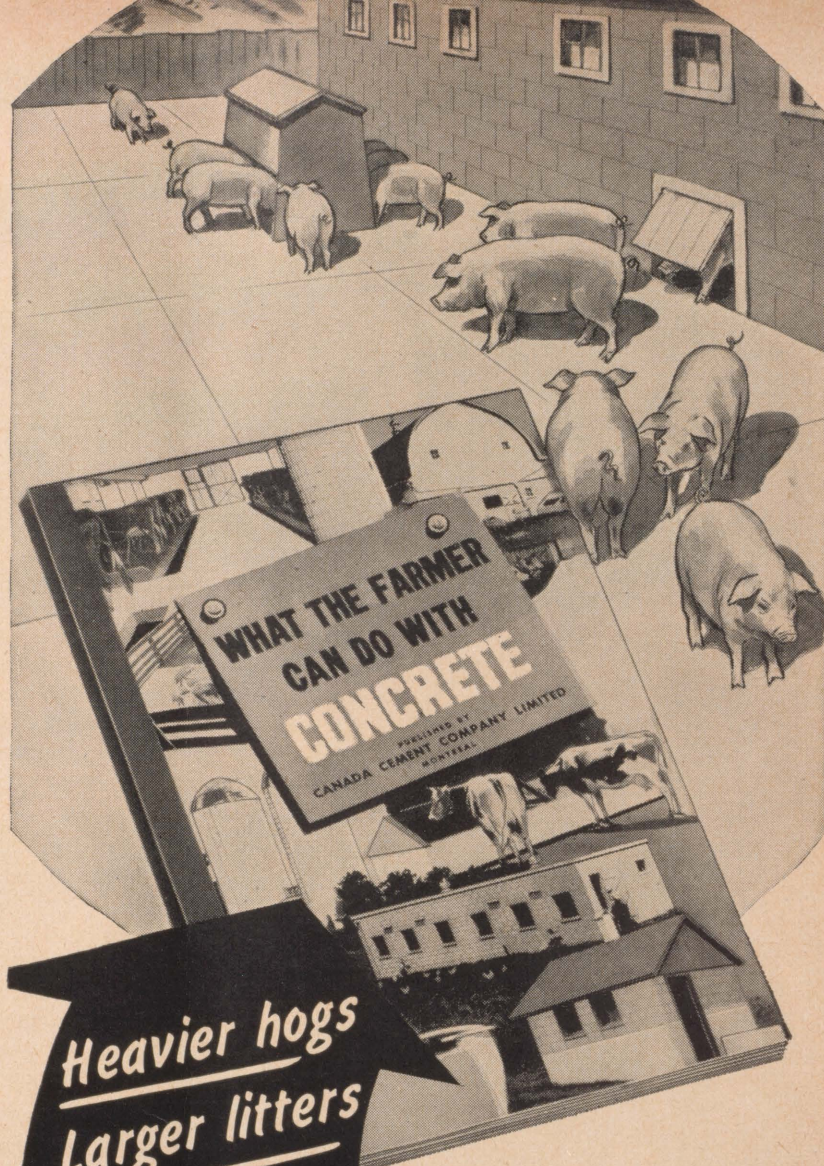


(Continued from Page 19)

plowed for this spring to tackle any more. We did think of fertilizing it but decided we had rather do it after plowing. If our plans hold we will put half of it into fall rye next fall and seed it down for pasture the following spring. The other half will get the same treatment the following season. Then we should like to follow a regular rotation in the pasture with about three acres in fall rye each fall and seeded down the next spring. That would take us six or seven years to make a round of the pasture. We now have the pasture cleared well enough so that plowing should not be difficult. After a short time we might have enough grazing to dispense with the rye and save one plowing. However we do not like to seed down the spring-plowed sod land and some of our pasture is too hilly to plow in the fall and leave bare through the winter which is another reason for the fall rye.

It looks as if our cultivated fields will need some rearranging to accomodate the extra fields we bought. We rather like the five-year rotation for our purposes so could not simply add an extra field to dispose of it. It is about large enough for one field in the new arrangement and we do not like to have fields divided into small pieces. It is much too expensive to work them that way. After a bit of pondering, we found that the other fields could be quite easily moved around to the new area and leave a small field near the barn to bring the most distant one to the right size. This will help to balance up the hauling.

One of the year's happenings occurred for the first time in forty years. This was the accident which cost us the heifer mentioned in the first of this rambling. We hope it will not be repeated and have taken steps to see that it is not which may be more effective than hoping. One heifer swung round too far in the stanchion and got across another while she was lying down. The resulting tangle was too much for one of them. Now we have put an upright between them about a foot and a half back of the line of stanchions. This does not restrict normal movement but should keep them from swinging too far.



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